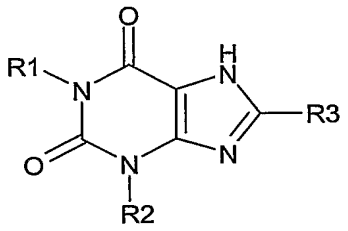
Claims

1. An entity selected from: a compound of Formula (I)



(I)

and a physiologically functional derivative thereof, wherein

R^1 is selected from: hydrogen and C_{1-4} alkyl which may be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from CN and CF_3;
R^2 is selected from: C_{3-10} unsubstituted alkyl, C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with one or more groups selected from fluorine and CN, C_5 alkenyl, unbranched C_4 alkenyl, and C_{1-4} alkyl substituted with cycloalkyl;
and R^3 is selected from halogen and CN;
with the proviso that:
(i) when R^3 represents Cl, and R^1 represents ethyl, R^2 is other than propyl;
(ii) when R^3 represents Br, and R^1 represents propyl, R^2 is other than propyl;
(iii) when R^3 represents Cl or Br, and R^1 represents butyl, R^2 is other than butyl; and
(iv) when R^1 represents C_{1-4} alkyl, CH_2CN, or $(CH_2)_3CF_3$, R^2 is other than branched alkyl.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein
R^1 is selected from: hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, CH_2CN and $(CH_2)_3CF_3$;
R^2 is selected from: C_{3-10} unsubstituted alkyl, $(CH_2)_{1-5}CN$, C_{2-5} alkyl with one or more fluorine substitutions, C_5 alkenyl and C_{1-4} alkyl substituted with cycloalkyl;
and R^3 is selected from halogen and CN;
with the proviso that:
(i) when R^3 represents Cl, and R^1 represents ethyl, R^2 is other than propyl;
(ii) when R^3 represents Cl or Br and R^1 represents butyl, R^2 is other than butyl; and
(iii) when R^1 represents C_{1-4} alkyl, CH_2CN, or $(CH_2)_3CF_3$, R^2 is other than branched alkyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein R^1 is selected from: hydrogen and methyl.

4. A compound according to any preceding claim wherein R^2 is selected from: C_{4-6} unsubstituted n-alkyl, $(CH_2)_{1-3}CN$, C_{3-4} alkyl with one or more fluorine substitutions and C_5 alkenyl.

5. A compound according to any preceding claim wherein R^3 represents halogen.

6. A compound according to any preceding claim wherein R^3 is selected from: chlorine and bromine.

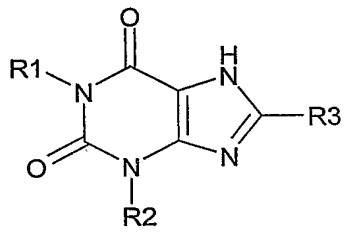
7. A compound according to any preceding claim wherein R^3 represents chlorine.

8. A compound according to any preceding claim for use in human or veterinary medicine.

9. A compound according to any one of claims 1-7, for use in the treatment of disorders of lipid metabolism including dyslipidaemia and hyperlipoproteinaemia and/or of inflammatory diseases or conditions.

10. A compound according to any one of claims 1-7 for use in the treatment of diabetic dyslipidaemia, mixed dyslipidaemia, heart failure, hypercholesteraemia, cardiovascular disease including atherosclerosis, arteriosclerosis, and hypertriglyceridaemia, type II diabetes mellitus, type I diabetes, insulin resistance, hyperlipidaemia, anorexia nervosa, obesity, coronary artery disease, thrombosis, angina, chronic renal failure, peripheral vascular disease or stroke.

11. An entity selected from: a compound of Formula (II)



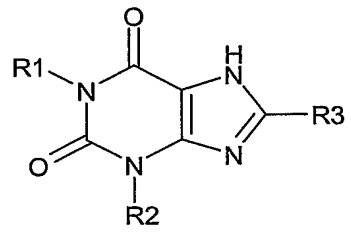
(II)

and a physiologically functional derivative thereof, wherein

R^1 is selected from: hydrogen and C_{1-4} alkyl which may be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from CN and CF_3;

R^2 is selected from: C_{2-10} unsubstituted alkyl, C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with one or more groups selected from fluorine and CN, C_5 alkenyl, unbranched C_4 alkenyl, and C_{1-4} alkyl substituted with cycloalkyl;
and R^3 is selected from halogen and CN;
for use in the manufacture of a medicament for treating diabetic dyslipidaemia, mixed dyslipidaemia, heart failure, hypercholesteraemia, cardiovascular disease including atherosclerosis, arteriosclerosis, and hypertriglyceridaemia, type II diabetes mellitus, type I diabetes, insulin resistance, hyperlipidaemia, anorexia nervosa, obesity, coronary artery disease, thrombosis, angina, chronic renal failure or stroke.

12. A method for the treatment of a human or animal subject having a condition where under-activation of the HM74A receptor contributes to the condition or where activation of the receptor will be beneficial, which method comprises administering to said human or animal subject an effective amount of an entity selected from: a compound of Formula (II)



(II)

and a physiologically functional derivative thereof, wherein

R^1 is selected from: hydrogen and C_{1-4} alkyl which may be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected from CN and CF_3;
R^2 is selected from: C_{2-10} unsubstituted alkyl, C_{1-10} alkyl substituted with one or more groups selected from fluorine and CN, C_5 alkenyl, unbranched C_4 alkenyl, and C_{1-4} alkyl substituted with cycloalkyl;
and R^3 is selected from halogen and CN;

13. A method according to claim 12 wherein the human or animal subject has a disorder of lipid metabolism including dyslipidaemia or hyperlipoproteinaemia or an inflammatory disease or condition.

14. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1-7 and one or more physiologically acceptable diluents, excipients or carriers.

15. A combination for administration together or separately, sequentially or simultaneously in separate or combined pharmaceutical formulations, said combination comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1-7 together with another therapeutically active agent.

16. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising:
    (i) a compound according to any one of claims 1-7;
    (ii) one or more active ingredients selected from statins, fibrates, bile-acid binding resins and nicotinic acid; and
    (iii) one or more physiologically acceptable diluents, excipients or carriers.

17. A method for the preparation of a compound according to any one of claims 1-7 in which R^3 is halogen, the method comprising:
    (i) alkylation at N1 or N3, or dialkylation at N1 and N3 of an N7 protected xanthine;
    (ii) halogenation at C8; and
    (iii) de-protection;

in any order providing de-protection is carried out after alkylation.